G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

Reserve

File No. 123-18

1918.

Serial Nos. 169

(PP)

Later references.

NG 16/20/222

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 169

Part B for Dec 1918.

SUBJECT.

Appointment of a Foodstuffs Commissioner in India.

W D 88—GPB—50,000—24-7-18

(G.R.S. 11] 19 . /

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(9f)

NOTES.

File No. /

File Heading.

Appointment of a food stuffs ... mixt...

From The A. Resident

No. 7162 Dated 14.10.15 Received 15.10.191

Diary No. (78) Enclos. 1 Spare Copies — Serial No. 1

Brief Abstract of Letter.

Forwards a copy of demi Official No 989 dated 7.10.15 from the Political Officer re the appointment of a food stuffs ... mixt...

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Chief Secy's order

Submitted to Dewan and Extra Members for perusal. Dated 19.10.15.

Extra Member's order

Seen. The D.C.S. requires to

Notes—First sheet

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. of 191 ..

Serial No.

be informed of arrangements for his future guidance
DW. P.R. 15/10/18

Draft submd.

24/10/18 Issued 25/10

2. To Mr [illegible]
No 67979 dated 1.11.18
forwarding copy of letter from

3 From Lt A. Resident.
No 4 dated 5.11.18
to Commissioner for Repatriation No 6 dated 10.18
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

4 Submd
6/11/18

Chapter — Approved

1525-45
7-11-18

Note—Contn. sheet.

Seen
8.11.18

WD A 1789—GPB—60,000—20-3-18—S.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | P P File No. 23 of 1918. 19

Serial No.

4

Rem. 4. 7. A Rec'd Letter.
No. 7/7/3 dated 13/11/1918
from [illegible] forwarding for
information and such remarks
as he considers necessary,
letter from the Govt. of India
& U.P. Govt. Revd Agriculture
Dept. regarding the export of
Grain.

7 Submitted with references. Reference is also invited to the Enclosed file regarding the submission of daily reports of exports of wheat & rice from the State

Mg
15/11/18

8 The Govt of India desire that the most accurate information possible as to the amount of food stocks in the Country should be obtained and Statements should monthly Commencing from 1st Dec. The Rev Commr (or the Food Controller through the Rev Commr) may be requested to see that the results of the Census about are communicated

H to P.P. 12/11/18 Q.1/12

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

WD A 1769—GPB—60,000—20-8-18—S.

General and Revenue Secretariat. | P. & File No. 123 of 1918.

Serial No.

to the Food Stuffs Commissioner (of the Govt of India) by 10 Dec

9. Arrangements have to be made to send such returns every subsequent month also.

10 A Copy of the order dated 11 Nov 1918 must be forwarded to the Residency and they must be informed that the reports called for will be sent by the Food Controller by the Director of Civil Supplies of the Govt of India

Order 22-10-1918, 11 In Cir. 1056-35-8, it is said that all Directors of Supplies in depot provinces and Areas should undertake to the Food Commissioner before the end of October their requirements for November and a forecast of their probable requirements for December and January. Our requirements have been submitted to the Residency in our letter dated 21st September 1918 (this letter has been submitted to the Dewan with

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

WD A 1789—GPE—90,000—20-3-18—S.

G. R. S. III-2)

General and Revenue Secretariat.

D.S. File No. 123 of 1918.-19

Serial No.

a D.S.W.) From the Director of Civil Supplies has intimated the Traders Committee Simla that he requires 75 tons of rice daily till 15 January 1919. (Chatterji) W.J. 16/10/18

12 Copies of the port of India letters may be sent to F.C. Controller & Dr CS (I believe he has already received a copy separately). Steps shd be taken to comply with the call for returns regularly & punctually. It will be seen that action suggested is much in advance of that on which we are taking action here. 2nd member) 17/11/18

39 18.11.18

Yes. agreed. 19/11/18

13 D.S.P. might be asked to report what action he has taken upon this letter

14 The G.I.P. Railway may be sent W.S. with the enclosure for their info. W.J.

15 Yes. rice requirements cannot be termed entirely upon the basis of yesterday's discussions

16 Action might be taken. agreed as indicated in the cover & no file

W.J. 20/11 21/11

Wg. Imperial Omitted in Hor. 1st of bills 22/10

Read at SP Meeting

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

6

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | P. P File No. 123 of 191 8-19

Serial No.

17 Two drafts submitted
herewith
21/11/18
[signature] WJ 22/11/18

18 So far as ~~xxx~~ the returns to the Food Commissioners are concerned it seems best to let the D.G.S. send them, obtaining necessary information from the Food Controller. The D.G.S. should be the medium for all dealings with outside authorities.

2nd member
156-22.11.18.

19 Omit-cfpd. CBJ 22/11/18

20 I will lead discussion if required. Meanwhile I have spoken more instructively with the Hon. Sec. WJ 22/11/18

21 Issued WJ 23/11/18

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

WO A 1789—GPB—60,000—20-3-19—S.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | P.P File No. 123 of 191 8 Cy

Serial No.

22

Chg. with Compliments
Rd. from the
Hon'ble Mr. G. 932 G
dt. 23.11
19 issued.
Hon'ble Rao Saheb
Mr. Mitra to
see about Rice
supply —
Residency to be
informed who deals
with this question

resubd as directed
2 Secy 5.25 P.M.
26.11 26/11/18 Secy.

26/11/18

Upon reconsideration I think
Secs will be responsible —
Unless ahead Secy
Establishment to show the
the "report this belongs
keep it that enough. Then
all. ? R. to
Secs for t.c. in 4 days time
4.11

25
Hon'ble
Please do so at once
CBS
26/11/18

NOTE—Contd. sheet.

VL

WD A 1789—GPB—60,000—20-3-18—S.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | P-P File No. 123 of 191 829

Serial No.

6 Draft sanctioned
by
27/11/1827 issued at Delhi
27/11/18

To

7 The F. A. Resident
No. 496 of 27.11.18
States That the returns will be sent to the Food Stuffs Commissioner and by the Director of Civil Supplies and by the Food Controller and requests to get the words changed.
No. [illegible]
[illegible]

8 From the F. A. Resident
No 8419 of 9.12.18
In continuation forwards for such action as may be necessary copies of communications from the Govt of India regarding the grant of permits certificates for export of foodstuffs etc
Subd - Copies of the Communications

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

WD A 1789—GPB—60,000—20-8-18—S.

6720
7186
9674
9198

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | P-P File No. 123 of 1918.29

Serial No.

may be forwarded to the Dr of Civil Supplies the Food Controller of the Revenue for info

hg
10/12/18.

(Dup Secy) Uf 11/12/18

In perusal

1st member

337
12-12-18

Draft subd

hra
16/11/18
hg

Uf 16/12/18

9 To -

The Dr of Civil Suppl
- Food Controller
- Rev Commrs

No. G. 12029-31 G 19.12.18

Fds for information copy of letter no 1155-34 G dt 11.12.18 from the Govt of India to the

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

D.O No. 4162
Com 1

THE RESIDENT MYSORE

6710
DIARY NO.....
THE RESIDENCY
BANGALORE.
14th October 1918

Dear Mr. Balasundaram Iyer,

I am desired to forward for the information of the Durbar, ------- a copy of a demi-official telegram No. 989 dated 10th October 1918, from the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Department regarding the appointment of a Food Stuffs Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

C.S.Balasundaram Iyer, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Telegram No. 989, dated the 10th October 1918, from the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.

Following is substance of resolution which Government India will issue to-morrow regarding control of foodstuffs distribution Proposed to appoint single executive authority working directly under Government India to be designated Foodstuffs Commissioner Government India in consultation with provincial Governments will decide from time to time quantities of foodstuffs available for transfer from surplus to deficit provinces and maximum prices for their purchase foodstuffs commissioner will arrange for purchase accordingly with cooperation of selected commercial firms and for despatch to destinations and consignees indicated by civisups of deficit provinces foodstuffs commissioner will deal initially with wheat and rice and for this purpose wheat commissioner Karachi and rice commissioner Rangoon will be subordinate to him. Similar control of other foodstuffswill be assumed as occasion arise supplies will only be made to dealers in deficit provinces licensed by civisup or other local authority licenses being conditional on holder selling within license by local Government with due regard to prices fixed for purchase by foodstuffs commissioner essence of scheme if fixing and control of quantities to be supplied by surplus to deficit provinces control within each province of vend arrangements and establishment of foodstuffs commissioner as essential link between local Governments and Government India and as authority to purchase and despatch foodstuffs from one province to another Gubbay selected as foodstuffs Commissioner and will assume beginning November.

Copy.

G.R.S. 29.]

12

.2010

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

( )

DRAFT ENDORSEMENT ON | File No. G.S. 123-
Serial No. 2

No. G 79/19 Encl

Dated——————, *the*——————*190* .

Issued on the 1-11-8

(A copy of the telegram may to be typed)

Copy forwarded to the D irecto
of Civil Supplies in
Mysore for information.

By Order, etc.

25/10

for Chief Sec

List of papers forwarded.

Telegram no 98 9 date
10. 10. 18. from the
Govt of India, Dept of
Rev & Agriculture to
the Hon'ble the Resident
in Mysore

Resolution by the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, No. 996, dated the 11th October 1918.

---:0:---

The Government of India have decided to discontinue further purchases of wheat for export overseas other than (1) wheat which is absolutely necessary on military and Government account and (2) supplies to Mesopatamia; and they have under consideration the question of reducing these commitments. The Government of India further purpose to exercise closer control over the export of all other kinds of foodgrains. These decisions, which have been taken in order to conserve for use in the deficit provinces in India such supplies of wheat and other foodstuffs as are not immediately required for local consumption in those provinces which have a surplus, are now to be supplemented by further measures designed to secure the most effective distribution to deficit provinces of the supplies of wheat, rice and subsequently of other foodstuffs, which are not required for local consumption in the surplus provinces. For this purpose the Government of India propose to set up a single executive authority, working directly under them, to be designated the Foodstuffs Commissioner. When the Government of India have, after consultation with the various provincial Governments, decided what quantities of foodstuffs are available for transfer from time to time from surplus to deficit provinces and the maximum prices at which such foodstuffs should be purchased, the Foodstuffs Commissioner will arrange, through the agency of selected commercial firms, for the purchase of the foodstuffs in question and their despatch to the destinations and consignees indicated by the Directors of Civil Supplies in the deficit provinces.

2. Initially the operations of the Foodstuffs Commissioner will be directed to the question of supplies of wheat and rice, in respect of which there are already in full working order the two agencies represented by the Wheat Commissioner, whose head-quarters are in - - Karachi, and the Rice Commissioner in Burma. These two agencies will continue to work, generally speaking, on their present lines as regard

purchases

15

purchases of wheat and rice, and will in addition exercise such other functions as may be allotted to them by the Foodstuffs Commissioner to whom they will in future be subordinate.

3. It will be a primary condition of supplies to dealers in deficit provinces that they should be licensed by the Director of Civil Supplies, or other local authority, and that the grant and continuance of such licenses shall be conditional on the holder selling within such prices as the local Government may fix, with due regard to the prices previously fixed for purchases by the Foodstuffs Commissioner. It will also be within the discretion of local Governments, if they think this necessary, to arrange for the opening of Government and Municipal depots or shops for the sale of foodstuffs at fixed prices.

4. Under this scheme it is contemplated that licenses for the export of wheat and rice, and subsequently of other foodstuffs, shall not be granted by the Director of Civil Supplies of any surplus province save in respect of purchases made through the Foodstuffs Commissioner; nor shall the Director of Civil Supplies in any deficit province issue licenses for import in respect of articles under the control of the Foodstuffs Commissioner to a large aggregate amount than the total quantity of such articles allotted by the Government of India for import into such province.

5. The essence of this scheme is inter-provincial allotment, the fixing and control of the quantities to be supplied by surplus to deficit provinces, the control within each province of arrangements for distribution and sale and the appointment of a Foodstuffs Commissioner as an essential link between local Governments and the Government of India and as the authority to arrange for the purchase and despatch of foodstuffs from one province to another.

6. The Foodstuffs Commissioner will enter on his functions at the beginning of November and the Governor General in Council has selected for this post Mr. M. M. S. Gubbay, C.S.I., C.I.E., by reason of his financial experience and ability, and his successful management

of

of the somewhat analogous Wheat Scheme of 1915-16. Pending the assumption of his duties by Mr. Gubbay, steps are being taken to give such immediate effect as is possible to the scheme formulated in this Resolution.

Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be communicated to all Local Governments and Administrations; to the Agent to the Governor General in Central India; to the several departments of the Government of India; to the Wheat Commissioner for India; to the Rice Commissioner in Burma; to the Secretary to the Central Transport and Foodstuffs Board; to the Secretary to the Communications Board; to the Controller of Traffic; to the Publicity Board and to Mr. M.M.S. Gubbay, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.

Ordered also that the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the Gazette of India for general information.

---:0:---

"C O P Y"

REGISTRAR.

17

R. O. 173. (a)—R. P. B.—7-1918.—1,000.

Encls - 4 with 2 spare copies

MYSORE RESIDENT'S OFFICE,

Bangalore, 13th November 1918

DIARY NO. 7674

-13

* with 2 spare copies. No. 7799. each

A copy of the marginally* noted letters with enclosures is forwarded to the Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, for information and such action as may be considered necessary, in continuation of the endorsement from this office No. 7574 dated 5th Nov. 1918.

1 bis. letter *No. 1056-358 dated 21-10-1918 from the Govt. of India, Dept. of Revenue and Agriculture with enclosures. from the bis. letter No. 1056-358, dated 22-10-1918 from — to — regarding the appointment of a Foodstuffs Commission

2. Attention is also invited to the correspondence ending with the Durbar's letter No. 275, dated the 16th September 1918.

Taken back by the Chief Secretary & returned 21/11/18

E
Amberis

First Assistant Resident.

2 of 15 18

... S. VI—G/32]

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to.....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

( )

, the *191* .

Date of issue 23.11.18

Signed by Mr. T Jayaraman

Section P:P

File No. 123-18

Serial No. 5

No. S. 9329

To

The Food Controller in Mysore
through the Resident
~~& the Director of Civil Supplies~~
Bangalore

Sir,

I am directed to ~~request~~ forward herewith a copy each of the marginally noted communications from the Govt of India regarding the appointment of a Foodstuffs Control Enquiry

over.

19

and to request that immediate
steps may be taken to comply
with the requisition contained
in the transmission of the
telegram for the fresh returns
due on the 10th Dec 1918
& also subsequent returns due on the 5th of each
the Residency has been informed
that owing to the
recent changes introduced
arrangements in this State, you
will find considerable difficulty
with furnishing the returns
to the Foodstuffs Cmte.

I have etc

H. H.

H 22/11/18 Chiefsecy

List of enclosures.

Copies to the Dy Cmr No S. 9330 of 23.11.18
Supplies. in regard with the request that the
action taken by him in the matter up to date may
be reported at once

H
Jr Chiefsecy

Copied by

Examined by

W D&C—GPB—60,000—15 11-16

G. R. S. VI—G/324

2 offs. 20

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to.....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

( )

, *the* *191* .

Date of issue 25.11.18

Signed by Hr. C.S.B Syrv.

Section

File No.

Serial No.

No. PR. 487/Ind. 1.

To

The 7. A. Resident

Sir,

With reference to your Endt no 7799 of the 13th Nov 1918 regarding the appointment of a Foodstuffs Centre I am directed to forward herewith for the information of the Honble the Resident a copy of Govt order no G 8450-512/P-P 134-18-1 of 11th Nov 1918

over.

21

reverts the food situation
in Rome & issuing further
instructions in the matter of ascertaining the
and to state that the Stock of food -
Food Controller in Rome grains in the State
has been instructed etc
to furnish to the Foodstuffs
Com[n] the returns asked required
for by him -

~~please to request that~~ I
have the
13.11

Chief Secy

22/11/16

List of enclosures.

one
nil

Copied by

Examined by

W D86—G P B—60,000—15-11-16

22

G. R. S. VI—G/32]

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to .....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(.)

, the 191 .

Date of issue 29.11.18

Signed by for C.S.B. Ayr.

Section P.P.

File No.

Serial No. 7.

No. PP. 496

To

The P. A. Resident.

Sir,

With reference to ~~your~~ this office letter P/A no 487 of the 25th Nov 1918 in the matter of furnishing certain returns to the Food Supply Comr, I am directed to ~~request~~ state that the Dr of Civil Supplies in Mysore will furnish

over.

27

the returns instead of the Food Controller in regard as indicated therein & to request that the words ~~Regarding~~ of 'Director of Civil Supplies' maybe substituted for 'Food Controller' in this office Communication refd to above -

Have the honour to be Sir Your most obedient servant

G950 -

Copy to the ~~Director Civil Supplies~~ Food Controller in regard in centn of this office ~~no~~ letter no G929 of the 23rd Nov 1918 - with a request that he file furnish the necessary information to the Dr of Civil Supplies in regard to the returns refd to.

(in lieu of the Govt of India) with the Enclosures sent to the

this Communication refd to

, List of enclosures.

Copied by

Examined by

W D66—GPB—60,000—15-11-16

G. R. S. 27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(*Continuation sheet draft form.*)

2/ 24

above may be forwarde
to the Dr of Civil Supplies
in regard

B.O.

Copies to the Dr of
Civil Supplies for infn
& necessary action

B.O

Copy to the Revenue
Commissioner

B.O

For Chief Secy

25

9/1918

wr vol. 16/1916

R. O. 178 (a)—R. P B.—11-1918.—1,000

P.P. 123

Encls: 2

MYSORE RESIDENT'S OFFICE,

Bangalore, 9th December 1918.

8

No. 8419 Sec/

A copy of the marginally* noted letters ~~with enclosure~~, is forwarded to the Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, for information and such action as may be considered necessary in continuation of the endorsement from this office No. 7799, dated the 13th November 1918.

*No. 1155-34 dated 11-11-1918 from the Government of India in the Deptt. of Revenue and Agriculture to the Govt. of Bombay.

Letter No. 1163-358, dated the 14th March 1918 from the Govt. of India, Deptt. of Rev. & Agriculture.

by

H S James

First Assistant Resident.

No. 1155-345.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

AGRICULTURE.

FROM

THE HON'BLE MR. R. A. MANT, I.C.S.

Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY, WAR PURPOSES BOARD, BALLARD ROAD, CIVIL SUPPLIES BRANCH, BOMBAY.

Simla, the 11th November 1918.

SIR,

The Government of India have given careful consideration to your letter No. 357-P.-D. C. S. of the 7th October 1918 in which, with reference to a Resolution passed at the recent session of the Bombay Legislative Council, the Bombay Government have suggested the adoption of certain measures designed to secure control on various essential points connected with the supply of foodstuffs to the Presidency. These points are summarised in the concluding sentence of paragraph 2 of your letter, as follows :—

(1) control of purchase in producing areas,

(2) control of traffic,

(3) control of prices in the consuming areas; and

(4) control of exports from the Bombay Presidency.

2. From the Resolution of the Government of India in this Department No. 996, dated the 11th October 1918, His Excellency the Governor in Council will have observed that the Government of India have already taken action in the direction of concentrating, under their orders, in the hands of one executive authority (*i.e.*, the Foodstuffs Commissioner) the arrangements for the purchase in, and distribution of supplies from, provinces which have foodstuffs in excess of their immediate requirements to other provinces where there exists a deficiency. Though for the present it will not be possible for the Foodstuffs Commissioner to undertake at once such functions with regard to food grains other than rice and wheat, it is contemplated that as occasion arises a similar control should be applied to these other staples. In particular, the Government of India agree with the Bombay Government in the view which, it is understood from paragraph 3 of your letter under reply, is also held by the Madras Government, that purchases of rice should be centred in the hands of one agency. The same view is held by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab in regard to wheat. The Government of India hope that before long it will be possible for the Foodstuffs Commissioner to make complete arrangements in respect of these two food grains.

3. Accordingly, the first of the four measures enumerated in paragraph 2 of your letter under reply has already been anticipated by the Government of India. The concentration in the hands of the Foodstuffs Commissioner of arrangements for the purchase of wheat and rice will render it possible to control prices of these grains in the producing areas, while, as regards other food grains, the Government of India are inclined to the view that, for the present at any rate, price control in the producing areas will need to be effected indirectly through the control of traffic, as explained in the following paragraphs.

4. It will be convenient to deal with this question of the control of traffic under the two heads of railborne and seaborne traffic.

As regards railway traffic, the position is as follows :—

(*a*) In regard to *inter*-provincial movements of wheat and rice, these will now be controlled by the Foodstuffs Commissioner.

(*b*) As regards *intra*-provincial movements, as explained in paragraph 13 of my letter No. 1056-358 of the 22nd October, the matter to be regulated by arrangement between the railway authorities and the Director of Civil Supplies.

(*c*) There remains the case which, as explained in paragraph 14 of my letter No. 1056-358 of the 22nd October, was not covered by the recommendation passed at the Delhi Conference, *viz.*, the case of *inter*-provincial movements by rail of foodstuffs other than those which are now to be, or which may subsequently be, controlled by the Foodstuffs Commissioner. Such foodstuffs may, in the absence of any special arrangement move from province to province without certificates or control, and in regard to these it is proposed in paragraph 5 of your letter under reply that all unrestricted traffic in foodstuffs should be prohibited. The Government of India have given their careful consideration to this proposal. Recommendations similar to that of the Bombay Government have been received from other Provincial Governments ; indeed permission has been given to the Governments of the United Provinces and the Punjab to prohibit the export of all foodstuffs from their provinces which are not covered by a certificate. The Government of India are now prepared to agree to the extension of this prohibition system as recommended by the Governor in Council and by other Local Governments; but in doing so it is necessary first of all to define the object and limitations upon the exercise of these powers, and secondly, to impose certain conditions.

6. The object of the system for the regulation of the traffic in these foodstuffs is two-fold. In the first place, through the method of certificates, Directors of indenting provinces will be in a position to control the arrangements for the sale of foodstuffs in their provinces, while secondly, the Directors of the supplying provinces will have the opportunity of controlling the exports from the areas under their control. It is, however, out of the question that the powers thus conferred upon local Governments and the Directors of Civil Supplies should be so exercised as to apply an absolute and uncontrolled embargo upon all exports of food grains from their provinces. It is essential that the scheme should provide means whereby the Foodstuffs Commissioner shall be in a position to gauge to what extent the policy of a Director of Civil Supplies is being carried into effect in a spirit which contravenes this qualification ; and for this reason also it is necessary to provide that it shall be open to any Director of an indenting province, who has failed to obtain the concurrence of the Director of the supplying province in meeting his requirements, to refer to the Foodstuffs Commissioner. Further, if the question is of sufficient importance it must always be open to the Government of an indenting province to refer the case to the Government of India, whose decision in the matter of *inter*-provincial distribution must be final. It is self-evident, as will no doubt be readily agreed by His Excellency the Governor in Council, that the success of the proposed method of regulating foodstuffs traffic would be seriously endangered by the adoption of an attitude on the part of any Director of Civil Supplies or local Government which was likely to expose other provinces to the risk of having their indents regularly and extensively, and without sufficiently grave reasons, rejected. The successful working of the scheme will require the active and loyal co-operation of all Directors of Civil Supplies, and the Government of India are confident that this important aspect of the scheme will be duly impressed by local Governments on their Directors and fully appreciated by the latter.

7. The conditions to which the regulation of traffic in these foodstuffs will be subjected, are, then :—

(1) The articles to be included in the restriction will need to be specified; and such specification should be made by the local Government and formally notified to the Railway authorities and to the Government of India. A Director of Civil Supplies will not have authority, without reference to the local Government, to prohibit the uncertificated export of foodstuffs from his province. (The reasons for the imposition of this condition will be clear from paragraph 6).

(2) For the present, as has been already explained in paragraph 5 (*a*), it will not be within the competence of a local Government to prohibit the export of wheat and rice from its province; and similarly, as and when the Foodstuffs Commissioner assumes control in regard to other food-grains, the restriction of movements of such food grains from a province will no longer be within the competence of the local Government.

(3) Each indenting Director of Civil Supplies will forecast monthly in advance the quantities of foodstuffs other than wheat and rice and any other "controlled" foodstuffs (*i.e.*, foodstuffs of which the Foodstuffs Commissioner may assume control) which he proposes to certify for import from another province. This forecast, which should state the areas from which importation is required, should be despatched to the Directors of Civil Supplies of those provinces from which the supplies are to be imported, and the latter's concurrence should be obtained to the quantities and articles to be imported. The forecast should also be communicated to the Controller of Traffic and all Controllers of Despatches (where these exist) so that the latter may see how far railway freight will be available in the month in which the supplies are to be obtained.

(4) A copy of the forecast prepared by the indenting Director, as also a copy of the communication made with reference thereto by the Director of the supplying province, should be furnished to the Foodstuffs Commissioner.

8. I now pass on to the question of regulation of seaborne traffic and in particular of traffic in rice between Burma and India. To secure, as recommended by the Bombay Government, the necessary control over such traffic the Government of India propose to lay down that no license shall be granted by Collectors of Customs in Burma for rice to be exported by private agency from Burma to India, save on the authority of the Foodstuffs Commissioner, to whom Directors of Civil Supplies will refer in any case in which for special reasons importation by private agency but under control may be necessary.

9. Apart from the traffic in rice between India and Burma, there is the coastal traffic between ports, both *intra*-provincial and *inter*-provincial. In respect of coastal exports of rice from provinces other than Burma, and similar exports of wheat and rice from all maritime provinces, any measures of control that may be necessary will be taken by, or at the instance of, the Foodstuffs Commissioner. In respect of foodstuffs not brought under that officer's control, the powers exercised by the local Government or its officers will be similar to those exercised, or to be exercised, in respect of those articles when carried by rail; that is to say *intra*-provincial coastal traffic will be regulated by the Director of Civil Supplies, while *inter*-provincial exports may be prohibited, in the case of articles specified by the local Government, except on certificate. It will, however, be necessary, in the case of both *intra* and *inter*-provincial coastal traffic, for the local Government to issue orders under section 157 (*d*) of the Sea-Customs Act, 1878, prohibiting the conveyance of specified foodstuffs save on production of a certificate signed or countersigned by the Director of Civil Supplies. Any orders which may be issued to this effect should, of course, be communicated to, and will be enforced through, the Collectors of Customs.

10. Control, as explained in the preceding paragraphs, over movements of foodstuffs to and from a province will afford an indirect method of controlling prices in consuming areas; a point which is dealt with in paragraph 7 of your letter under reply. It is realised, however, that it will not enable the regulation of prices in the consuming areas of locally grown foodstuffs or exisiting stocks. But in regard to these local Governments have power of compulsory acquisition of stocks at a reasonable price, and it is partly with this object in view that they were desired in paragraph 8 of this Department's letter No. 1052-358 of 21st October to order a disclosure of stocks of such foodstuffs as may be selected by them in addition to certain articles specified by the Government of India with a view to facilitate compulsory acquisition if necessary. The Government of India recognise of course that, as pointed out in paragraph 7 of your letter, such action will not be

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entirely free from difficulty, but I am now to ask whether, in view of the more definite and comprehensive action which is now proposed with a view to apply control over the movement both by land and by sea of imports of supplies into the Bombay Presidency, His Excellency the Governor in Council still adheres to his view that the method of direct fixation of prices is preferable to the indirect method mentioned above, supplemented, as just indicated, by the possibility of compulsory acquisition of stocks. If His Excellency in Council still adheres to his previous view, I am to say that the Government of India will be ready to give careful consideration to the arguments which he may bring forward in support thereof and to definite and specific proposals which he may desire to recommend to this end.

11. Finally I am to refer to the question of exports from the ports of Bombay and Karachi to foreign ports. I am to say that the Government of India are in agreement, generally, with the Bombay Government, that it will be desirable to apply a system of rationing to countries which have been drawing their supplies of foodstuffs from India. From the opening sentence of the Resolution of this Department No. 996 of the 11th October, as also from paragraph 17 of my letter of the 22nd October, where particular reference is made to the question of export of rice from Bombay and Sind, His Excellency the Governor in Council will observe that this question of control of exports on private account from India is being actively examined. Steps have already been taken in certain cases to withdraw licenses granted for the export of rice from Burma and the grant of further licenses has been suspended.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

R. A. MANT,

Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 1156-345.

Copy forwarded to all Local Governments and Administrations except Bombay for information and guidance.

By order, etc.,

W. A. THRELFALL

for *Under Secretary to the Government of India*

No. 1156-345.

Copy forwarded to the

1. Foreign and Political Department
2. Railway Department, (Railway Board)
3. Department of Commerce and Industry
4. Finance Department
5. Home Department
6. Public Works Department
7. Indian Munitions Board
8. Education Department
9. Army Department

for information,

[ ] To Nos. 1 & 2 only. (and necessary action).

[ ] To Nos. 3 to 9. [and guidance].

By order, etc.,

W. A. THRELFALL,

for *Under Secretary to the Government of India.*

266RAD—1000—14-11-18—GCPS

Circular Letter No.1163-358, dated the 14th November 1918, from the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, to all Local Governments and Administrations (except Burma

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In paragraph 8 of this Department's Circular No.1056-358, dated the 22nd October 1918, it was said that with effect from the 1st Novemb no priority certificates would be accepted by a Director of Civil Supplies in a surplus province for the export of wheat and rice. As the Foodstuffs Commissioner has been unable to complete his arrangement for controlling the supply of these commodities he has informed all Directors of Civil Supplies that for the present existing arrangements will continue and consequently wheat and rice are still being exported from provinces by rail, whether covered by priority certificates or not

2. Local Governments and Administrations have been empowered, x subject to certain conditions, to restrict rail-exports of foodstuffs, other than wheat and rice (to movements covered by certificates. I am now to say that the export of wheat and rice (including paddy) from a province by rail should not be permitted except under a certificate countersigned by the Director of Civil Supplies of the exporting province. The Railway Companies will be instructed by the Railway Board accordingly.

x Vide Revenue and Agriculture Department letter No.1155-345, dated the 11th November 1918, to the Government of Bombay, copy forwarded to all Local Governments and Administrations.

3. These instructions, however, do not permit a Director of Civil Supplies to refuse countersignature of a certificate for the export of wheat or rice (including paddy) when he receives such a certificate from the Director of another province. If he desires to do so he must refer the matter for the orders of the Foodstuffs Commissioner

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"C O P Y"

REGISTRAR.

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G.R.S. 29]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(·)

DRAFT ENDORSEMENT ON | File No.
Serial No.

No... G 12029-31 (2 to each)

Dated.....the 19/11/1918.

Issued on the .....

Forwarded with Compliments to the Director of Civil Supplies, the Food Controller, and the Rent Commissioner for information

By Order, etc.

for Chief Secretary to Govt

List of papers forwarded.

Copy of letter no 1155-34 of 4.11.1918 from the Govt of India in the Deptt of Revenue and Agriculture to the Govt of Bombay

Copy of letter no 1163-358 dated 14.11.18 from the Govt of India Deptt of Revt & Agriculture

GPB—5,500—29-6-11